

Madera Roja de la Secoya
7675 Pine Valley Drive
Sacramento, CA 95828-5006

Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

7 8 5 7 '99 APR 13 A 9 :59

RE: Labeling of irradiated food products

Dear Person;

The present FDA regulation for irradiated food products includes a clear disclosure of irradiation that includes the radura international symbol. I am a consumer of food products and I wish to request that this labeling requirement be continued as it presently exists.

In response to your request for address to specific points, I reply as follows:

1. I believe that the current disclosure statement conveys very meaningful information in a truthful and non-misleading manner.
2. I perceive the current labeling as informational regarding the product. I believe that all persons should have the opportunity to choose the products that they feel are appropriate for their own use with the full and clear knowledge of what the processing steps are for those products.
3. I do not find that I am inappropriately anxious by the current labeling of irradiated food products. An example of "inappropriate anxiety" would include the feeling that the producer or the merchant were attempting to purposely harm me or other persons or that the irradiated products could contaminate other products near them.
4. I believe that the current labeling requirement is appropriate and meaningful. I believe that it is not misleading nor do I find it threatening in any way.
5. I believe that consumers would be misled by the discontinuance of the radiation disclosure statement that is currently required. I believe that consumers are more fully informed by the presence of the current labeling.
6. With regard to food that contained irradiated ingredients, I believe that consumers would be misled by the absence of the radiation disclosure statement that is currently required on irradiated whole products. I believe that consumers are more fully informed by the presence of the radiation labeling.
7. I have read all the current literature available on this subject and have made a reasonable judgement for my own consuming needs.
8. I believe that the use of the current labeling requirement on radiation treatment of food products will cause producers to consider the desires of all consumers in their product production; those who wish to add the measure of safety that radiation provides as well as

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those who wish to avoid the use of these products.

9. I understand that radiation of food products will kill harmful pathogens at the time that the food product is produced and packaged. I understand that harmful pathogens can be reintroduced into the food products if they are mishandled by the consumer.

10. I believe that the radura logo is universally recognized by everyone. It is a symbol that is easily recognizable to all persons, whether or not they speak English.

11. I believe that everyone would recognize that food products containing the radura logo to be irradiated.

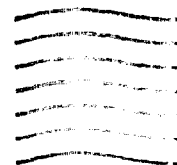
12. I believe that each person will interpret the radura logo for themselves, but that it will primarily be informational in nature. It will help them to make informed decisions in their food product purchases.

13. & 14. & 15. I do not believe that the requirements for radiation disclosure should ever expire at any time in the future.

Madera Lopez de la Secoya

Sincerely,

Madera Roja de la Secoya
7675 Pine Valley Drive
Sacramento CA 95828-5006 USA



*Lockett Management Branch (HFA-305)
Food And Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, MD. 20852*

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